

Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
8/2/15 – 8/15/15

DISTRICT 1

CO Mark Leadman and CO Mark Zitnik contacted a subject operating an ORV with no helmet and no ORV license. The subject also was operating the ORV with a passenger when the ORV was not designed. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Leadman and Mark Zitnik encountered a subject camping in a state forest campground (SFC), and who had failed to register his campsite. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson was patrolling an area of high ORV traffic when he encountered two individuals on dirt bikes who appeared to be operating in a wetland. CO Ferguson questioned both individuals and both denied riding in the wetland. CO Ferguson found both were operating without an ORV registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson assisted CO Jason Wicklund on an ORV operating on a state highway. CO Ferguson was able to catch the ORV and get it to stop in a safe manner. CO Wicklund made contact with the operator and enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Wicklund and Isaac Tyson worked the Menominee Waterfront Festival on Lake Michigan. The number of vessels was less than years' past but the COs were busy with a variety of marine violations including unregistered vessels, bow riding, and no navigation lights.

CO David Painter went to hunter safety class in Kingsford where he talked about Conservation Laws and conservation officer duties to 83 students.

COs David Painter and William Haskin were on patrol and observed a car traveling down a dirt road with a person riding on the roof of the vehicle on his belly like superman. The COs followed the vehicle and made a traffic stop. The COs watched as two objects were thrown from the vehicle. Upon approaching the vehicle, the person on top of the vehicle jumped off. The COs searched for what was thrown from the vehicle and located two beer cans. The driver passed a field sobriety test but he and a passenger were charged with open intoxicants in a motor vehicle and litter. The passenger on the roof was charged with failure to wear a seat belt.

COs David Painter and William Haskin were on patrol and observed two dirt bikes parked alongside the highway with no ORV sticker on one and a misplaced ORV sticker on the other. The COs pulled up to the dirt bikes and asked why they didn't have their bikes properly registered. The suspects failed to provide a valid answer. While on the stop another individual pulled up on his dirt bike that was also not properly registered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Painter and CO William Haskin assisted local officers with a complaint of a domestic disturbance in progress. The suspect was non cooperative but the COs were able to persuade the suspect to cooperate. The suspect was also found to have a warrant and was taken into custody.

COs Jason Wicklund and Isaac Tyson spent an afternoon checking anglers on Lake Gogebic. One angler told the COs he hadn't had any luck but when he opened his coolers a walleye was discovered. The angler stated the walleye was only 14 ½ inches but luckily for him, when the COs measured the walleye on the fish board, it was 15 inches. The angler was educated on fish measuring and honesty.

COs Jason Wicklund and Isaac Tyson checked a boat with a registration from 2011. Contact was made and the owner stated that he received a ticket back in 2003 for the same reason. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Wicklund and Isaac Tyson observed an ORV operating on the highway against the flow of traffic. Contact was made with the individual and a total of six violations were discovered. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Robert Freeborn was on routine patrol when he observed an ORV with no ORV license traveling with two passengers sitting on the front rack of the machine. None of the riders were wearing helmets. CO Freeborn stopped the ORV and it was determined the operator had two outstanding warrants as well as a suspended driver's license. CO Freeborn found it ironic that one of the warrants was from when he worked at a local police department before working for the DNR. The subject was arrested on the warrants and enforcement action was taken on the additional ORV violations.

COs Robert Freeborn and Bobby Watson responded to a complaint of a charter dive boat removing artifacts from a local shipwreck. The COs were able to locate the boat and contact the crew. A search of the boat was conducted however no artifacts were recovered. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Michael Evink conducted a patrol of Big Bay de Noc on a personal watercraft (PWC). CO Evink was able to check a large number of anglers and other boaters. During one of his contacts he was conversing with two anglers and, while doing so, another vessel came within 75 yards of the officer without noticing his presence. This "sportsman" thought he would have a better chance of catching fish with an additional line. Once the individual noticed the CO he left the helm of his vessel and went to the port side, and attempted to sit low enough hoping the officer might not notice him reeling in the additional line. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon was working with CO Marc Zitnik when they pulled up to the intersection of M-41 and Dukes Rd. A horn was sounding and a crashed vehicle was in the middle of the highway. They had just missed witnessing a full speed traffic crash.

The officers quickly assessed the situation and provided first aid to the victim in the crash until the officers were relieved by emergency medical personnel. The driver of the vehicle had crashed at full speed into the back of a parked vehicle waiting at a construction zone. Unfortunately the driver didn't survive the accident. No one else was injured.

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon and CO Marc Zitnik, while on patrol on the AuTrain River, contacted the operator of a boat with an expired registration. Investigation revealed that the owner hadn't transferred the registration on the boat he'd purchased a year ago and also hadn't transferred the plate on the trailer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken was patrolling Mackinac County for ORV activity when he observed four ORVs operating on a county road. Contact was made with the first ORV. When asked by the officer if all of the ORVs had valid registrations, the operator replied, "I know the first two do but I am not sure about the last two. Can you please explain the ORV laws to me?" One of the ORVs had a 1997 registration while one had no registration. The officer explained that it was a little late to discuss ORV laws since the operator clearly knew that the ORVs needed to be registered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken and Michigan State Police (MSP) troopers responded to a bank alarm. The building was cleared by the officers and the alarm was found to be due to a lighting strike that occurred.

CO Bobby Watson, Sgt. Mike Hammill, and Lt. Skip Hagy participated in a children's local hero's day. The officers brought boats and other equipment for the kids to see and have their pictures taken. Safety presentations were also given to the 63 participants.

Sgt. Mike Hammill participated in a Law Enforcement presentation at the Luce County Fair.

COs Jon Busken and Bobby Watson patrolled Big Manistique Lake near dusk. Several warnings were given for minor violations and one ticket was issued for possession of an undersized walleye.

CO Jon Busken patrolled South Manistique Lake and observed a boat with two anglers fishing. When the CO approached the boat the female angler was no longer fishing. When asked for her fishing license she indicated she was not fishing. The officer told the pair that he had seen both of them reeling in poles. The male angler said that he thought she would not need a fishing license if she reeled in poles that he had cast. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken observed an ORV in Curtis being ridden double. A traffic stop was conducted and the operator was found to have a warrant from Monroe for failing to pay child support. The second occupant was the operator's 12 year old son. The individual

was able to produce \$500 cash bond, and enforcement action was taken on the ORV violation.

CO Jon Busken observed a vehicle stopped in the middle of the road. When the vehicle began moving it crossed the center lane and almost hit a mailbox on the left side of the road. A traffic stop was conducted. When the passenger opened the glove box the officer saw an open beer can. A search of the vehicle revealed a second open beer can that was cold and half full. The passenger admitted to consuming alcohol while the operator was driving on the public road. The passenger stated that he had put the beer can in the glove box when he saw the officer's vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken received a phone call from an individual to whom he had written an ORV ticket several weeks back. The individual had several ORV law related questions. The officer answered the questions and thanked the individual for calling before he operated the ORV again.

CO Jon Busken discussed being a responsible and ethical hunter with 20 students at a Hunter Safety Class. After the presentation the officer answered the students questions on hunting laws, answered questions about his career and gave a tour of his patrol vehicle.

CO Brett Gustafson contacted an ORV operator riding without a helmet and no ORV license. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Mike Hammill and CO Brett Gustafson assisted with the Governor and DNR Director's detail on a canoe trip on the Two Hearted River for a dedication ceremony.

CO Bobby Watson was patrolling a local hotspot for ORV activity when he observed an ORV approaching him with two riders lacking the required helmets. Contact was made with the pair and CO Watson explained why it is dangerous to be riding without wearing a helmet, and even more so when riding double on a machine that is not designed to hold two riders. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeff Panich and Jacob Griffin were patrolling the St. Mary's River when they observed a boat operating at a high rate of speed with two kids and one adult riding on the bow of the boat. PCO Griffin made contact with the operator who was not happy for the stop. PCO Griffin inspected the boat for proper safety equipment and explained the safety concerns associated with bow riding, especially at high rates of speed in rough waters. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeff Panich and Jacob Griffin were patrolling Lake Huron between Cedarville and Hessel when they observed a large sailboat bearing a name on the transom, but no registration decal displayed. When contacted, the owner of the vessel stated it was a documented vessel and handed over his papers. The owner did not have a Michigan registration. After further questioning the owner admitted to docking the vessel in Michigan for over a year and he never had it registered. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

While working a marine patrol on Clam River, COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry witnessed a boat enter the slow, no-wake zone at a high rate of speed. Officers conducted a stop and notified the occupants of the no-wake violation. There also were not enough life jackets on board, and the driver appeared to be intoxicated. Field sobriety tasks were given and the operator was arrested for operating while impaired (OWI). His alcohol level was over twice the legal limit.

While working a marine patrol on Torch Lake, COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry observed a PWC towing without an observer. The operator also did not have a boater's safety certificate and a working fire extinguisher. A ticket was issued along with warnings for the other violations.

COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry stopped a subject without a helmet riding an ORV on the shoulder of the roadway. He was previously given a warning from local deputies for the same violation. A ticket was issued for the safety violation.

COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry worked the Elk Rapids Harbor Days festival conducting marine enforcement patrols and assisting the Elk Rapids Police Department with traffic control after the fireworks.

COs Duane Budreau and Brandon Hartleben worked the Top of Michigan Power Boat Races, helping to close the Crooked River to recreational boaters during the race.

While on patrol, CO Carl Vanderwall observed three ORVs operating toward him on a forest road. Upon making contact, it was discovered none of the three ORVs were licensed. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry were on an ORV patrol when they encountered an ORV on Jordan Valley Road. Jordan Valley Road is a county road but it is closed to all ORV use. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry were on their way to a complaint when an oncoming vehicle that was passing ran them and the car in front of them off the road. The vehicle was stopped and enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrea Albert and Jill Berry got a complaint of someone poisoning wildlife and domestic animals. The complainant thought it was his neighbor who had bragged in the past about doing so. The complaint was investigated but no illegal activity was discovered.

CO Carl Vanderwall reports locating a pickup truck load of trash dumped on state land. After digging through the trash pile, a name and address was located. Follow up is underway.

COs Steve Speigl and Josh Wright patrolled the upper chain of lakes in Antrim County. During the patrol, officers encountered numerous marine violations, including vessels without proper personal flotation devices (PFDs) and registration issues. Enforcement action was taken.

While traveling on US 131, COs Steve Speigl and Josh Wright witnessed an ORV operating on the roadway. The ORV was followed into a subdivision and a stop was made. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Jordan River, COs Steve Speigl and Josh Wright observed two subjects hiking towards Pinney Bridge with a backpack containing fishing rods. Upon making contact with the suspects a strong odor of marijuana was detected. After questioning the suspects, a confession was obtained and an eight ounce bag of marijuana was seized. In addition it was learned that one of the subjects was not in possession of a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Eric Bottorff, Nick Torsky, Duane Budreau, Robert Slick, Brandon Hartleben, Kip Maher, and Sgt. Greg Drogowski worked the Top O' Michigan International Hydroplane boat races on the Inland Waterway. COs coordinated with the Cheboygan County Sheriff's Deputies and the US Coast Guard and cleared the rivers of recreational boat traffic. The officers also stood guard at the river mouths preventing recreational boats from entering during the race. No violations were encountered and no personal injury accidents occurred this year. Assistance was given to broken down race boats, but overall the race went very smoothly.

COs Eric Bottorff and Kip Maher investigated a trash dumping complaint on state forest land. Evidence was found in the trash that led to a suspect, who was interviewed and confessed to the violation. A littering ticket was issued and the trash will be cleaned up.

COs Matt Theunick and Michael Haas stopped two young riders with expired ORV licenses. They followed them to their cabin and spoke with the father, who was the owner of the ORVs. One ticket was issued for fail to license ORV.

CO Matt Theunick received a complaint of an abandoned ORV near a trail intersection. Upon investigation, CO Theunick discovered the owner had lost the machine from the back of his vehicle and was appreciative for its return.

CO Eric Bottorff was conducting surveillance on areas of illegal ORV operation when he discovered two vehicles stuck in the mud in a prohibited area. The vehicles were extricated from the mud, and tickets were issued.

CO Mark DePew received a complaint of unwanted subjects who had entered a private campground by boat. During the course of the investigation, marine and fishing violations were discovered in addition to the trespass. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew and PCO Kip Maher conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that was displaying an improper license plate. Other violations were discovered, including operating a vehicle without insurance. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Torsky conducted an inspection on a privately-owned cervid facility for Wildlife Division.

COs Paul Fox and Jon Sklba assisted local agencies with recent storms that knocked down power lines and trees across the roadways. In one location, a large tree fell across the roadway, blocking vehicle travel. The COs were able to remove the tree off the roadway before it could pose a hazard to motorists.

COs Paul Fox and Timothy Rosochacki were on patrol when they observed an ORV being operating on a county roadway. Upon checking the ORV, it was found to be unlicensed. Enforcement action was taken by the officers.

COs Paul Fox and Timothy Rosochacki were on patrol when they observed an ORV being operating on the roadway. Upon checking the ORV, it was found to have a valid ORV license but the operator was not wearing a helmet. The rider was issued a ticket for operating an ORV without a helmet.

COs Paul Fox and Jon Sklba were patrolling Lake Huron when they observed a single angler in a boat with six lines. Upon contacting the subject he stated he knew the legal limit was three lines per angler but he normally had his daughter with him and usually used six lines. A ticket was issued for fishing with too many lines.

COs Andrew Monnick and Bill Webster were patrolling the Devils Lake ORV Trail when they passed a vehicle with an open window. The officers detected a strong odor of marijuana and stopped the vehicle. During the contact the subjects admitted to smoking marijuana and gave the COs pipes and a small amount of marijuana. Tickets were issued.

COs Andrew Monnick and Bill Webster were driving on a snowmobile trail which is closed to ORV operation when they contacted four ORVs on the trail. When contacted the operators admitted to driving their unregistered ORVs around a gate. A ticket was issued for the unlicensed ORV and the officers explained the laws pertaining to operation of ORVs on state land.

COs Andrew Monnick and Bill Webster were checking boats after dark on an inland lake when they contacted a vessel without navigation lights an hour after dark. A ticket was issued for operating without navigation lights.

COs Andrew Monnick and Bill Webster gave a presentation at a Hunter Safety Class in Montmorency County.

COs Andrew Monnick and Bill Webster were on patrol on West Twin Lake when they observed a vessel towing a tube. There was only one person in the boat and the person riding the tube did not have a PFD. A ticket was issued for pulling a tube without an observer.

COs Andrew Monnick and Bill Webster witnessed a jet boat being operated at a high rate of speed within 100 feet of an anchored boat and people swimming in the water. A ticket was issued for operating at a greater than slow, no-wake speed within 100 feet of the anchored vessel and swimmers.

COs Kelly Ross and Robert Slick located and seized a trail camera which was set over an early bear bait. Follow up interviews were conducted and the hunter was issued a ticket for the early bear bait.

COs Kelly Ross and Robert Slick were patrolling on Fletcher Pond when they contacted two anglers in a boat who had a good catch of panfish and bass. Upon measuring the bass, two of them were undersized and tickets were issued.

COs Kelly Ross and Robert Slick checked a pontoon boat on Fletchers Pond with six people on board. After observing the anglers for a short time the COs witnessed all on board fishing. When the officers contacted the anglers, two of them quickly set their fishing poles down and claimed they were not fishing. After a short conversation they admitted to fishing without licenses and both were issued tickets.

DISTRICT 4

After confirmed tornados and straight-line winds in excess of 100 mph went through Leelanau County, CO Patrick McManus and PCO Tyler Cole assisted local deputies and several local fire departments with the aftermath of the storm. The COs were tasked with checking homes of elderly individuals, traffic direction, and responding to local general criminal complaints and calls. The clean-up throughout the county continues weeks later and the COs have assisted those needing assistance when called upon.

The Leelanau County Sheriff Department called upon local COs to assist with handling complaints and calls while their deputies attended annual training. CO Patrick McManus and PCO Tyler Cole responded to numerous 911 emergencies, including an infant locked in a hot car, trees caught on power lines, traffic accidents, reckless drivers, and a possible overturned vessel in Lake Michigan. All situations ended positively and members of the Leelanau County Sheriff Department stated they would call on the DNR Law Enforcement Division in the future for needed coverage.

COs Sean Kehoe and Rich Stowe were checking ORV trails in Grand Traverse County when six ORVs abruptly turned off the road and onto a narrow trail. The COs attempted to stop the ORVs in a nearby area when the individuals fled and turned onto a railroad grade that was inaccessible by patrol truck. As the COs used the side roads to get

ahead of the ORVs, their pursuit ended when they came across a four year old girl with Autism wandering down the middle of the road. COs Kehoe and Stowe stayed with the child until a frantic parent who had been looking for her arrived on scene. Investigation into the fleeing ORVs continues.

While patrolling in Grand Traverse County, COs Sean Kehoe and Rich Stowe followed ORV tracks to an area near the Boardman River. The COs located the ORVs and contacted the operators. The individuals were operating in a closed area, not wearing helmets, riding double, and lacked one ORV registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Stowe responded to a complaint of a dead bear in Leelanau County. Investigation revealed that injuries to the bear were consistent with having been hit by a vehicle on the roadway. A salvage permit was issued to the property owners.

COs Rich Stowe and Rebecca Hopkins assisted the Grand Traverse County Sheriff Department in searching for a careless driver observed in the area of the Lake Dubonnet SFC. The suspect vehicle was eventually located at the vehicle owner's residence, which was in a nearby neighborhood. Investigation resulted in the driver being arrested by sheriff's deputies.

CO Rich Stowe investigated a complaint of a dead Loon on Silver Lake in Grand Traverse County. Initially the Loon was believed to have been accidentally hit by a boat; however, injuries to the immature Loon as well as witness accounts point toward a possible attack by other Loons causing the death. The recovered Loon has been submitted to the lab for a necropsy.

COs Josiah Killingbeck, Brian Brosky and Chad Baldwin assisted local deputies and the MSP in searching for an elderly lady with dementia who had been last seen several hours before 911 was called. CO Killingbeck, using an ORV, began searching wooded areas, two tracks and fields for the missing person. After searching for over an hour CO Killingbeck located the lady unharmed with her very tired dog in a remote wooded area. CO Killingbeck was able to direct other units to his location where the missing person was reunited with her family.

CO Josiah Killingbeck of Lake County was patrolling Federal Land when he observed a vehicle with a dog box in the bed of the truck. CO Killingbeck watched the subject run out of the woods and get into his vehicle. Upon contacting the subject he claimed he was relieving himself and was in a hurry to get home. CO Killingbeck observed a bucket in the back of the truck and questioned the driver about having an early bear bait. The subject was very evasive with his answers and CO Killingbeck soon located a bucket full of bear bait hidden where the subject had exited the woods. The subject hung his head and said, "You got me". Enforcement action was taken for establishing a bear bait prior to the legal baiting season.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was conducting a marine patrol and observed a subject trolling with a row boat. CO Killingbeck approached the vessel and asked the angler how the fishing was. The angler said, "I don't have a license give me the ticket". The subject also had no PFD. A Retail Sales Check confirmed the subject had no history of purchasing a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck pulled up to a boat for a routine fish check and immediately smelled marijuana. After checking everyone on the boat for fishing licenses, CO Killingbeck asked one of the individuals if he had a medical marijuana card. The subject said he did and proudly handed it to CO Killingbeck. CO Killingbeck asked if he had marijuana with him and again the subject proudly held up four joints. CO Killingbeck asked the subject if he was familiar with the regulations pertaining to medical marijuana and where it can and cannot be used. The subject stated that he was not sure but thought there is a lot of "gray area". The subject was educated on using marijuana in public. The marijuana was seized and enforcement action taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck of Lake County was on an ORV patrol and observed an ORV leave the designated trail and enter an illegal sand bowl. The operator said he figured if other ORVs operated in the sand bowl it must be ok. CO Killingbeck took the opportunity to educate the operator of areas open to ORV use.

COs Brian Brosky and Chad Baldwin worked an area closed to ORV traffic that has been a problem with erosion issues. The property has been posted but signs continue to get destroyed. The COs issued multiple tickets addressing the issue.

COs Brian Brosky and Chad Baldwin responded to multiple complaints on the Pere Marquette River Indian Bridge area for vehicles illegally parking causing traffic issues and confrontations. Several tickets were issued.

CO Sam Koscinski of Manistee County investigated a dog attacked by a bear. The DNR Wildlife Division personnel assisted in setting traps in attempt to trap the animal.

COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse of Manistee and Josiah Killenbeck of Lake County attended two bear hunting clinics for the upcoming bear season. Both were well attended with over 100 people at the clinics to learn more about ways to successfully harvest a black bear, legal issues and ethical hunter behavior.

COs Ben Shively and Troy VanGelderren of Oceana County were called to assist the local narcotics team who were serving a search warrant and had located recently quartered deer in garbage bags in a freezer. The COs responded to the residence and interviewed the two suspects at the county jail. The COs received a confession from the shooter who was with the other suspect, sitting in a blind together in the middle of July to take two antlered deer in velvet with a .22 magnum rifle. The COs also were able to retrieve garbage bags containing two deer and locate carcasses and racks from each deer. Officers further located the blind used by the hunters and two spent .22 casings from inside the blind. Warrants will be sought for taking deer during the closed

season with a firearm, felon in possession of a firearm, and taking deer with a rimfire rifle .22 caliber or smaller.

CO Ben Shively of Oceana County was working the Silver Lake State Park ORV Area and was conducting stationary radar on the entrance ramp into the dunes. He ticketed a subject for travelling twice the posted speed limit. CO Shively also issued a ticket to a subject who was operating a rental ORV with a restricted license. While on patrol at the park CO Shively also responded and handled two vehicle accidents with no injuries.

CO Angela Greenway of Mecosta County received a complaint of two men sneaking across a road and shooting two sand hill cranes. CO Greenway conducted a follow up investigation and received information on possible suspects. CO Greenway responded to the suspect residence and noticed the sand hill cranes outside and placed on a cement pad by the house. The subject at the house stated they belonged to his brother. CO Greenway contacted the brother and received a full written confession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse of Manistee County was working the Muskegon River Task Force detail and located nine juveniles in possession of alcohol, trespassing and littering. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Koscinski of Manistee County was working the Muskegon River Task Force and was able to make over 100 contacts. Tickets were issued for failure to provide PFDs aboard vessels.

CO Troy Mueller of Osceola County and Sgt. Michael Bomay were working state land when they came across an ORV operator in a closed area, with no helmet and no ORV licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

While working a late night marine patrol on a local Gladwin County lake recently, CO Steve Lockwood and Sgt. Jon Wood stopped a vessel that was operating without working navigational lights. In addition to the equipment violation, the operator was in violation of the medical marijuana laws. If that was not bad enough, the subject had several outstanding warrants for his arrest. Officers arrested the operator and transported him to shore where a sheriff's deputy picked him up and transported him to the county jail.

PCO Matt Zultak and CO John Huspen checked a subject who was fishing on Higgins Lake. The subject did not have his license on person and told the officers that he bought it back in May when he started fishing for the year. Upon checking the subject's fishing license history, he had not purchased a license since 2013. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mike Hearn and Matt Zultak responded with the MSP and local deputies to the report of a suicidal subject in Kalkaska. Contact was made with the subject, who was heavily intoxicated at the time. The subject's medical condition was checked by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and he was arrested on an outstanding warrant and lodged in the Kalkaska County Jail.

During a late night patrol of Blue Lake Township CO Matt Zultak and CO Mike Hearn witnessed a vehicle fail to maneuver a curve in the road and ended up in a ditch. Contact was made with the 20 year old driver and two juvenile passengers. After interviews and field sobriety tests, the driver was arrested for operating while impaired (OWI). The two passengers were ticketed for minor in possession of alcohol violations and released to parents.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz was on patrol when he encountered two ORVs operating down the middle of a county road. CO Liestenfeltz made contact with the second ORV in line and observed three occupants with open intoxicants. The two passengers were ticketed for open intoxicants upon an ORV. The driver was arrested for refusing to take a breathalyzer, and ORV driving while impaired (DWI), and lodged in the Missaukee County jail.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz received a complaint of a large party on state land that originated from a "Facebook" invitation where several "hosts" were found to be responsible for planning the unpermitted event. Assisted by Missaukee County Sheriff's Deputies and the MSP, the officers contacted 150 party-goers and were able to shut the event down without major incident. One subject was arrested for resisting/obstructing and lodged in the Missaukee County jail.

COs Chuck McPherson and Casey Pullum investigated an illegal dumping site on state land. In the illegally dumped material was a 2014 antlerless deer license. Officers interviewed the licensee and enforcement action was taken along with cleaning up the site.

COs Chuck McPherson and Casey Pullum investigated a conflict between subjects training bear dogs and a property owner. Officers conducted interviews and a warrant is being sought for hunter harassment.

COs Chuck McPherson and Casey Pullum attended the National Night Out in Saint Helen. Officers talked to numerous participants about the job as a conservation officer, marine safety, ORV laws and hunting regulations.

While patrolling Houghton Lake, Sgt. Jeremy Payne and CO Casey Pullum observed a pontoon with numerous anglers on board. A quick check revealed that three of the individuals who were fishing were non-residents without fishing licenses. While issuing the tickets and taking bond, one of the non-residents began to laugh and said, "Are you serious?" Sgt. Payne informed her that the COs take fishing without a license very seriously and issued the ticket.

COs Kyle Bader and Brad Silorey checked an area of state land known as Beaver Lake. There were four jeeps that had been operating through the wetland area, one of which was still in the water when the COs arrived. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Bader and Brad Silorey observed smoke coming from behind a barn and all sorts of material scattered around a house to indicate a remodeling project. The resident allowed the COs to check the fire behind the barn where they found things like insulation and drywall being burned. The contractor who started but was no longer attending the fire was ticketed for illegal disposal of solid waste.

COs Brian Olsen and Shannon Kritz stopped an ORV in a prohibited area. The driver was a 14 year old girl and her father riding as passenger. The young girl did not have an ORV safety certificate and was operating in a prohibited area. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jonathan Warner, Brian Olsen, Shannon Kritz, and Sgt. Brandon Kieft assisted the MSP, US Forest Service (USFS), and local sheriff's deputies on a proposed large party that was scheduled to take place on public land and was organized via social media. The organizers had not been permitted for the event and many law enforcement violations were expected. The COs issued a number of tickets for traffic control issues and assisted local enforcement agencies on drug and alcohol violations.

CO Josh Russell was patrolling the lower Au Sable River when he observed a male and female in a canoe trolling with a line behind them in the water. CO Russell stopped them and asked them for a fishing license. The male stated he bought a "2 hour" license the night before but did not have it on him. Further investigation determined that the subject did not have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

While on ORV patrol, CO Kyle Bucholtz stopped a golf cart for operating on a two-lane state highway. The driver and passenger both had children between them or on their laps and the driver was without a driver's license and identification. The occupants were not wearing helmets or seat belts. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Craig Neal and CO Dan Lee were patrolling state land in Midland County when they contacted two men in a jeep. During conversations the men explained they were trying to stay out of trouble because they both had recent alcohol related issues and were trying to get ahead. Unfortunately, the jeep was not registered and it did not have insurance. One of the men had an outstanding warrant for a probation violation. The jeep was towed, the operator received tickets for the vehicle violations, and the other man was lodged for his warrant.

After checking out a litter complaint in western Midland County, CO Dan Lee and PCO Craig Neal were able to track down the man responsible. He admitted to having the

litter in his truck and cleaning it up when he heard that the officers were investigating the complaint, but denied actually placing it there in the first place. After several attempts to convince the COs of his innocence, the subject finally confessed and accepted his ticket.

While patrolling the Six Lakes area in Montcalm County, PCO Adam LeClerc and CO Ken Lowell located an angler fishing. The COs watched the angler for a while and then decided to make contact with him. The angler spotted the COs walking his way and got out of the water and put down his fishing pole, hoping the COs did not see him fishing. Upon contact, it was determined that the angler was fishing without a license. The angler claimed to be from Tennessee and did not know the rules. When he was informed that he would be going to jail if he did not have bond money, he then admitted he was from Michigan. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Craig Neal and COs Quincy Gowenlock and Will Brickel were working the Kawkawlin Flooding on an evening patrol. While traveling down a two track, they observed a cloud of dust in the air and several fresh dirt bike tracks. The COs sped up and located a subject riding a dirt bike illegally on state land. A traffic stop was conducted and when questioned, the subject advised that he didn't know that ORVs were not allowed in the flooding and said he just moved to the area. When asked why he did not have a trail permit, the subject again advised that he did not know that he needed one. Enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a night patrol on the Saginaw River, PCO Craig Neal and COs Quincy Gowenlock and Will Brickel were up on plane approaching Ojibway Island. While traveling on plane, the COs observed a dark object crossing their path. Evasive action was taken in order to avoid a collision. When the COs powered down and turned around, they found a small 14 foot swamp boat with two subjects onboard and no navigation lights. An enforcement stop was conducted and when questioned the operator advised he had just bought the boat and wanted to take it for a test ride. He was working all day and this was his first opportunity to do so. As the COs conducted a safety check, it was determined that the subjects also did not have any PFDs onboard. The COs followed the small boat back to the boat launch and tickets were issued.

While patrolling state land, COs Joel Lundberg and PCO Benjamin Weber made a traffic stop on a vehicle for a loud muffler. The driver had open alcohol while the passenger claimed to not have any. Approximately 40 feet behind the vehicle, PCO Weber discovered a freshly discarded can of beer with the same printed information as the driver's can. The passenger confessed to discarding the can of beer when he saw their patrol vehicle approaching. It was also discovered that both occupants had multiple warrants for their arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Andy Bauer spoke to approximately 20 students and parents at a hunter safety class held at Berrien County Sportsman Club about the role of a conservation officer and hunting regulations and ethics.

CO Steve Mooney had a bench trial with a subject who had been issued a ticket for an overlimit of sunfish. The subject stated that he had given some of his fish to the partner in his boat who was also overlimit, but that they shouldn't count against his limit. The subject was found guilty.

CO Ivan Perez and PCO Hugh McMath conducted routine fishing license checks in Holland. The first check resulted in a subject from Detroit who did not have a fishing license. A records check revealed he had an outstanding warrant out of Detroit. Enforcement action was taken for the fishing license and he was advised and released on the warrant. The second check occurred at a local park where, after they watched two subjects fishing, a check was made as they exited the fishing pier. Both subjects denied fishing. One of the subjects was hiding a small object in his shirt which was removed and turned out to be a large can of beer. The individual was intoxicated and told the officers after he finally admitted to fishing that he was homeless and was just trying to feed himself and didn't have any money. The officers informed him he should have used the money he spent on alcohol to buy food instead of fishing illegally. A records check revealed the subject had an outstanding warrant. He was advised and released on the warrant and enforcement action was taken on the fishing incident.

CO Ivan Perez contacted a local subject fishing with five lines on Belle Isle. When asked about having too many lines he stated that two of them belonged to his son who had just left the area. When the fish he caught were inspected it was determined that the subject had an undersized largemouth bass that his son had caught. An inspection of the live bait he had been using revealed he was in possession of live Round Gobies, an aquatic invasive species which are illegal to use and possess. CO Perez assisted the angler with releasing the bass and spent a considerable amount of time educating the angler. Numerous warnings were given and the subject was advised that his day of fishing was over.

CO Mike Mshar received a complaint from the Allegan County Sheriff's Department regarding subjects who were goose hunting out of season. CO Mshar was traveling back to the area after just finishing a night shift on Belle Isle. CO Mshar responded to the complaint and contacted the complainant, who was positive the subjects were shooting geese. CO Mshar located the group of hunters and observed them for a period of time before making contact; at which time it was discovered that the subjects were crow hunting.

CO Chuck Towns and Sgt. Kevin Hackworth assisted the MSP on a flight to search for illegal marijuana growing operations. One illegal operation was investigated by the officers after two large plants growing in pots on a back deck were sighted by the

helicopter crew. After the COs located the plants on the deck they observed a number of large sunflowers out in a garden. A check of the garden led to the discovery of several more marijuana plants growing alongside the sunflowers and beside fruit trees. Several legal grows were also investigated and documented.

DISTRICT 8

CO Rich Nickols and PCO Mark Siemen were checking anglers along the Grand River in Lansing. Two subjects were encountered fishing on the back side of a cemetery. One subject possessed a mutilated fish which was a catfish that may have been undersized. The other subject possessed an undersized smallmouth bass. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Dan Robinson closed out a case that was started by PCO Will Kinney. A subject dumped a twenty foot boat on state land. While contacting the registered owner of the vessel, an interview led to another subject who claimed he was selling the boat for someone else. After interviewing that subject and using cell phone evidence, the COs were confident that the second subject was responsible. The day after interviewing the subject a second time he called PCO Robinson and wanted to talk. The subject stated that it was he who dumped the boat and he was trying to set up the person that his mom bought the boat from because he was upset by the deal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Dan Robinson made contact with a subject who had taken a 7 point buck in 2014, on the morning prior to purchasing a license. After interviewing the subject the COs determined that he had shot the deer before purchasing a license. A statement was obtained, the antlers were seized, and enforcement action was taken.

While in Genesee County, CO Jeremy Beavers conducted a patrol along the Flint River in order to check anglers. During one check, CO Beavers made contact with two subjects who were fishing below the Oak Road Bridge in Richfield Township. CO Beavers observed the area from the top of the bridge and saw both subjects fishing along the south side of the river. CO Beavers walked down to the subject's location and made contact while both were in the process of fishing. CO Beavers asked if they had any luck and both stated no. After checking the area for fish and equipment CO Beavers requested to see both anglers' licenses. Both stated they did not have fishing licenses. When asked why, one stated he did not have the money and the other said he had no excuse and just did not purchase a license. Enforcement action was taken.

During a fisheries patrol in Genesee County, CO Jeremy Beavers checked anglers fishing in the Kearsley Reservoir in the city of Flint. CO Beavers made contact with a subject he had checked once before. During the previous check the subject did not have a fishing license. The subject was not actively fishing during contact and only stated he was looking for lures that had been lost in the water. CO Beavers warned the

subject that he needed a fishing license and he should get one if he intends to fish in the future. During the current check, the subject was actively fishing when contact was made. CO Beavers asked the subject if he finally bought a license and he stated he did not. CO Beavers told the subject that he was warned once before and asked why he was fishing without a license. The subject stated he had not had the time to purchase a license. CO Beavers explained that he could have easily picked one up on his way to fish and it had been two weeks since their last encounter. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Matthew Neterer were responding to a complaint of a captive fawn when they overheard a call from central dispatch of a vehicle in the ditch that was attempting to get unstuck and leave the scene. According to the caller, the driver was possibly OWI or experiencing medical difficulties. The responding agency was approximately 15 minutes away where CO Kovach and PCO Neterer were only a few miles from the scene. Upon arrival on scene, CO Kovach and PCO Neterer found a woman sitting in her car in the ditch and several witnesses parked alongside the road. After ensuring the woman didn't require medical attention and wasn't OWI, CO Kovach and PCO Neterer gathered witness statements and information to pass on to the responding agency. Witnesses stated that the woman had been driving erratically for several miles crossing the center line and fog line many times before nearly rear ending a pickup truck that was stopping ahead of her. She swerved in an attempt to miss the truck sending her skidding into the ditch. Due to the speed and amount of traffic on the roadway, she was very fortunate no one was injured or killed. The case was turned over to the Michigan State Police.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Matthew Neterer received a complaint of a captive fawn at a farm in Lapeer County. The two attempted to locate the farm at the address given however it was not a correct address. They observed a man at a nearby residence cutting the grass. In an attempt to locate the fawn, the officers pulled into the residence to ask for directions. The man cutting the grass indicated that he worked for the farmer and knew where the fawn was. He was very cooperative and agreed to take the officers to the barn where the fawn was. Upon arrival to the barn, a small fawn was located running towards the officers from a nearby bean field. The fawn did not seem to be bothered by the three farm dogs that greeted it. The man stated that they had located the fawn a few months prior while cutting hay and that his father had become attached to the fawn. The man agreed to give the fawn to a local wildlife rehabilitator who would properly release the fawn into the wild.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Matthew Neterer received a complaint of an ORV stuck in a closed area on State Land. The complainant provided pictures and a license plate for the pickup truck. By the time the officers received the complaint, several days had passed. They ran the license plate and responded to the registered owner's residence to see if the truck could be located. Upon arrival to the residence, the pickup was seen parked in the driveway. The registered owner was outside cutting the grass. Upon making contact with the woman, she advised that her son had taken the truck mud bogging over the weekend but didn't make it very far because the four wheel drive

wasn't working in the truck. She advised that her 25 year old son was home and would talk to the officers. The man admitted that what he had done was "stupid" and that he wouldn't do it again. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was out checking anglers when he came across two young men fishing. The young men stated it was their first time fishing and they had no idea they needed a fishing license. CO Schaumburger, with the aid of dispatch, was able to confirm that each angler had purchased three fishing licenses in the past. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger initiated a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle with expired plates. The driver of the vehicle had no driver's license, had two felony warrants and multiple misdemeanor warrants out for his arrest. The driver was lodged and enforcement action was taken.

BELLE ISLE

CO Jason A. Smith and PCO Christopher Lynch conducted three patrols on Belle Isle. With the weather being nice several people were out enjoying the park. Many stated they were glad to see the DNR on the Island and appreciate their efforts. Several stated the park is starting to bring back good memories from when they used to enjoy the park as kids. The COs conducted numerous fish checks, land use checks, and vehicle checks and overall compliance was good. They also answered several questions about fishing and the park.

CO Rich Nickols worked a busy shift on Belle Isle which included traffic crashes, a complaint of threats being made, a lost child at the beach, a homeless woman threatening people with a knife, and a group of canoers that had become stranded.